WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus capable of receiving data from outside and executing data overwrite, comprising:

5   a plurality of processing sections that include storage devices storing data associated with the respective sections of the image forming apparatus, and executes control based on the data stored in the storage devices;

10   a storage section that stores basic data and overwrite data thereof, which is stored in the storage devices of the processing sections;

a receiving section that receives overwrite data from the outside;

15   a first control section that executes a control to store the data received by the receiving section in the storage section;

an overwrite section that overwrites the data in the storage device of the associated processing

20   section, using the data received by the receiving section;

a confirming section that confirms whether the image forming apparatus operates with a combination of the data stored in the storage devices immediately

25   after the overwrite section overwrites the data or immediately after power to the apparatus is turned on; and

a second control section that executes, when the confirming section confirms that the image forming apparatus fails to operate, a control to overwrite the data in the storage devices on the basis of the basic data and overwrite data stored in the storage section, thereby to realize a latest, optimal combination of data.

2. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of processing sections are a system processing section, a scan processing section, a print processing section and an option processing section.

3. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storage section is a hard disk drive that is provided with a table storing the basic data and overwrite data.

4. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the storage device is a non-volatile memory that contains prestored basic data or stores overwritten data.

5. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the receiving section is a controller that acquires data from a Web site that provides data via the Internet.

6. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the receiving section is a controller that acquires data from a Web site that provides data

via the Internet, and also acquires data such as version information indicative of a combination of data from the Web site.

7. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the overwrite section is a system processing section that executes a control of the entirety of the image forming apparatus.

8. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the confirming section confirms whether the image forming apparatus operates with a combination of the data stored in the storage devices, which controls the respective sections of the image forming apparatus.

9. The image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the confirming section confirms whether an option device, which is added to the image forming apparatus, operates.

10. An image forming apparatus capable of receiving data from outside and executing data overwrite, comprising:

system processing means, including a storage device storing data, for controlling an entirety of the image forming apparatus on the basis of the data stored in the storage device;

scanner processing means, including a storage device storing data, for controlling a scanner included in the image forming apparatus on the basis of the data

stored in the storage device;

   print processing means, including a storage device storing data, for controlling a printer included in the image forming apparatus on the basis of the data stored
5 in the storage device;

   option processing means, including a storage device storing data, for controlling an option device, which is added to the image forming apparatus, on the basis of the data stored in the storage device;

10   storage means for storing basic data stored in the storage devices, and overwrite data of the basic data;

   receiving means for receiving overwrite data from the outside;

   first control means for executing a control to
15 store the data received by the receiving means in the storage means;

   overwrite means for overwriting the data in the storage device of the associated processing means, using the data received by the receiving means;

20   confirming means for confirming whether the image forming apparatus operates with a combination of the data stored in the storage devices immediately after the overwrite section overwrites the data or immediately after power to the apparatus is turned on;

25 and

   second control means for executing, when the confirming means confirms that the image forming

apparatus fails to operate, a control to overwrite the
data in the storage devices on the basis of the basic
data and overwrite data stored in the storage means,
thereby to realize a latest, optimal combination of
5   data.

     11. A data overwriting method for an image forming
apparatus capable of receiving data from outside and
executing data overwrite, comprising:

     controlling respective sections, which form the
10   image forming apparatus, on the basis of data stored in
storage devices associated with the respective
sections;

     storing basic data and overwrite data thereof,
which is stored in the storage devices, into an
15   external storage device;

     executing, when overwrite data is received from
the outside, a control to store the received data in
the external storage device;

     overwriting the data in the associated storage
20   device, using the received data;

     confirming whether the image forming apparatus
operates with a combination of the data stored in the
storage devices immediately after the data is
overwritten or immediately after power to the apparatus
25   is turned on; and

     executing, when it is confirmed that the image
forming apparatus fails to operate, a control to

overwrite the data in the storage devices on the basis
of the basic data and overwrite data stored in the
external storage device, thereby to realize a latest,
optimal combination of data.